

AP® English Language and Composition Professional Development Workshop

Sunday, June 28 – Thursday, July 2, 2015 • Bozeman High School, Bozeman, Montana



Instructor: Carol Elsen, Missoula, Montana

Carol Elsen developed the Advanced Placement® English program (both AP® English Language and AP® English Literature) in the Montana high school where she has taught for over 19 years. She has also has taught composition and literature courses at The Ohio State University and the University of Montana.

In 2001, she became a reader and table leader of the AP® English Language Exams and has served as a faculty consultant for the College Board, presenting one-day workshops and weeklong institutes throughout the Western region, as well as at AP® National Conferences. In 2011 and 2012, she served on the steering committee for the AP® National Conference. Carol has been involved as a reader and trainer of trainers in developing the Montana Writing Assessment (a pilot project for the new ACT writing assessment). A member of NCTE and MATELA, she also teaches online for UCLA in the summer sessions. In addition to teaching and course content writing for college level American literature courses, she reads the writing sample for the SAT. As a mentor teacher, her joy is helping AP® teachers discover new insights and methods for successful teaching.

The College Board describes the Advanced Placement® English Language and Composition Course as one which “engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of reasons.”

Carol Elsen states: “My intent for this workshop is to provide materials and models for teaching an Advanced Placement® English Language and Composition class. When the workshop is completed, each teacher should have a confident plan for designing, enriching and teaching his/her own Advanced Placement® English Language and Composition class.”

Monday, June 29, 2015 – Day 1

MORNING - The AP® English Language Examination

- Available College Board materials, websites, and resources.
- Timing, format, methods of evaluation and grading.
- Teaching to the exam – “the coach approach.”
- Uniqueness of AP® Language and Composition as distinct from AP® Literature and Composition.
- Course objectives, including skills required such as close reading skills, analysis, argument and synthesis.
- Notes from Daytona Beach and Louisville.
- AP® Audit.
- College Board equity statement.

AFTERNOON

- Curriculum development: close reading and passage analysis.
- Building confidence in reading and writing.
- Rhetorical methods: autobiography, voice, satire, tone, definition, comparison contrast, organization and thinking skills.
- Scoring the rhetorical analysis essay.

Tuesday, June 30, 2015 – Day 2

MORNING

- Discussion of participants’ successful practices in teaching close reading and rhetorical analysis.
- More strategies for teaching rhetorical analysis.
- Scoring the 2015 rhetorical analysis essay.

AFTERNOON

- Teaching the argument and the persuasive essay.
- Strategies to help students write persuasively and create compelling approaches to argument.
- Teaching students the art of using evidence to support claim.

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Wednesday, July 1, 2015 – Day 3

MORNING

- Discussion of participants' successful practices and techniques for teaching argument.
- Scoring the 2015 argument essay.
- Analyzing visual texts as argument

AFTERNOON

- Discussion of participants' successful practices and techniques for teaching synthesis writing.
- Methods of teaching synthesis: Factoid Friday and beyond.
- Using and analyzing citation and endnotes.

Thursday, July 2, 2015 – Day 4

MORNING

- Discussion of participants' successful practices and techniques for research writing.
- Scoring the 2015 synthesis essay (question 1).
- Multiple choice strategies.

AFTERNOON

- Participants share best practices.
- Strategies for assessment – a variety of approaches.
- Wrap-up of ongoing discussions and evaluations.
- Awarding of certificates.

Schedule

Day/date	Time	Event	Location
Sunday June 28	6:30 – 7 p.m.	Meeting for participants who wish to earn graduate credit	Bozeman High School
	7-8 p.m.	Social hour for participants and presenters	TBA
Monday June 29	7-8 a.m.	Registration	Bozeman High School
	7:15 – 8 a.m.	Breakfast	
	8 – 11:30 a.m.	Workshop time	
	11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Lunch	
	12:15 – 4:15 p.m.	Workshop time	
Tuesday June 30	7:15 – 8 a.m.	Breakfast	Bozeman High School
	8 – 11:30 a.m.	Workshop time	
	11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Lunch	
	12:15 – 4:15 p.m.	Workshop time	
	4:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Group event	Downtown Bozeman
Wednesday July 1	7:15 – 8 a.m.	Breakfast	Bozeman High School
	8 – 11:30 a.m.	Workshop time	
	11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Lunch	
	12:15 – 4:15 p.m.	Workshop time	
Thursday July 2	7:15 – 8 a.m.	Breakfast	Bozeman High School
	8 – 11:30 a.m.	Workshop time	
	11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Lunch	
	12:15 – 4:15 p.m.	Workshop time	